



**DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION
OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL
FIRE ENGINEERING DIVISION**

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**CALIFORNIA STATE FIRE MARSHAL
FIRE ALARM ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: August 6, 2014

Location: Office of the State Fire Marshal, Sacramento

Time: 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

COMMITTEE GOAL

To advise the State Fire Marshal on proposed regulations and technical issues by providing views and comments from members of industry, the public, and the fire services.

STAFF

James Parsegian, Supervising DSFM, Chair
DeeDee Garcia Assistant Program Coordinator

MEMBERS PRESENT

Gary Dunger, Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development
Walter Brandes, Riverside County Fire Department
Shane Clary, Bay Alarm Company
Rick Cortina, Pyro-Comm Systems, Inc.
Ronald Farr, Underwriters Laboratories, Inc.
Wendy Gifford, Consultant
Bill Hopple, Hopple & Co.
Richard Roberts, Honeywell Life Safety*
Ken Quick, Culver City Fire Department
*via conference line

MEMBERS ABSENT

John Mapes, Foster City Fire Department
Tom Connaughton, Intertek – ETL
Jay Levy, Hochiki America
Rick Lewis, Sabah International
Michael Reeser, Santa Rosa Fire Equipment Services
Patrick Ward, AON Fire Protection Engineering
Howard Hopper, Underwriters Laboratories, Inc.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Chairperson James Parsegian as 10:05 AM on August 6, 2014.

ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

DeeDee Garcia conducted a roll call and it was determined that we had a quorum.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

No minutes were approved at this meeting due to the draft minutes being posted late.

OLD BUSINESS

1. The Title 19 regulations package for the new smoke alarm listing requirements has been approved and finalized.
2. Digital Monitoring Products Throttling Issue. The next item of discussion is the throttling issue as well as the question of this actually being an issue. Most of the members agreed that the possibility of delays is miniscule.

Action Item: James stated that he will issue a letter to Digital Monitoring Products explaining their decision. He will meet with representatives from UL to prepare a letter for the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

1. The OSFM is starting the code adoption cycle for 2016. It has to be approved and published by July 1, 2015. This office will start the Building Standards Commission process later this year. If there are issues concerning NFPA 72 that need to be addressed please let James know.

Action Item: James will also provide the committee with a timeline of how the code adoption works.

2. The NFPA 72 Committee Membership did not get approved.

Action Item: James will be looking into other options and will report back at the next meeting.

3. The low frequency alarm signal for audible devices note was added to some listings recently. There is a letter that was sent to the manufacturers about this requirement.

Action Item: James will discuss further with OSFM staff members.

OPEN FORUM

1. Various water districts are imposing fines for discharging water improperly from fire suppression systems. The Automatic Extinguishing Committee has released a BMP for water discharge for fire suppression systems.

Action Item: James will look up previous Information Bulletin, update as needed, and send it out again as a reminder to industry.

2. The issue of Potter Electric Signal flow switch was brought up. Mike Henke of Potter Electric Signal Co. made a presentation to explain to the committee how the VSR-AT flow switch works. He brought in the flow switch and videos to demonstrate the operation with and without water. There was discussion about the features, benefits and test method as it relates to code.

Action Items: James will send the NFPA interpretation letters to the committee.

Mike Henke asked the committee to present his proposed regulations package to the Code Development and Analysis Division.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for November 18, 2014 from 10:00 AM to noon (Pacific Standard Time) at the Office of the State Fire Marshal, 1131 S Street, Sacramento, California. A conference line and GoTo Meeting will be available.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned by Chair James Parsegian at 11:56 AM.